

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

HITCHINS et al.

Serial No.: 09/436,612

Filed: November 9, 1999

For: PLUNGER SYSTEMS

Art Unit: 3763

Examiner: John D. Yasko, Jr.



PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

RECEIVED
JAN 31 2001
TC 3700 MAIL ROOM

Please enter the following amendments in the application before the examination thereof.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 20 without disclaimer or prejudice to presenting it in this or a later-filed application.

Please add the following new claim:

-- 21. The syringe of Claim 11 wherein the plunger surface further comprises a protruding member at a forward end thereof, the protruding member being adapted to enter the discharge end of the syringe when the plunger is advanced to expel liquid therefrom. --